

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION congratulating Amish Acres on
the 50th Anniversary of their Annual Arts & Crafts Festival.

MISHLER

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2012)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION congratulating Amish Acres on the 50th Anniversary of their Annual Arts & Crafts Festival.

Whereas, The Amish Acres Annual Arts & Crafts Festival, held the first weekend in August, began as a part of the sidewalk days celebration in 1962. The festival features entertainment, musical theater, guided tours, wagon rides, and awards;

Whereas, Over the past 50 years, the event has seen over 1.5 million visitors, and more than 300 artists and craftsmen make their way to Nappanee from over 30 states and 250 cities to be a part of this annual event;

Whereas, The most notable and popular artists are honored in a hall of fame, and the Best of Show Blue Ribbon Collection of purchase prizes is now a permanent gallery exhibit in the Nappanee Center;

Whereas, The Festival has awarded over \$250,000 in cash and prizes to art contest winners and the festival artists sell several million dollars worth of crafts and artistry each year;

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Whereas, Amish Acres has become an international tourist attraction and is featured in the National Register of Historic Places. It is the home of Plain and Fancy, a 26 year old musical about Amish life, which is performed in the Round Barn Theatre;

Whereas, For the fourth time, the Arts & Crafts Festival has been named one of the top 100 Events in North America in 2012 by the American Bus Association. The readers of Sunshine Artist magazine have also ranked the summer festival as high as the 3rd best Classic and Contemporary Craft Show in the country. Travel Trade Magazine's Focus 500 lists Amish Acres as number one among its top ten attractions for groups traveling in Indiana. Senior Group Traveler chose the festival as the only Indiana event in their Editor's Choice of Outstanding Festivals and Major Events;

Whereas, The fourth generation of the Pletcher family continues the Amish tradition through the annual art festival. Mr. Richard Pletcher oversees the operations as CEO of Amish Acres and of the Festival. His daughter, Jenni Wysong, is the president of Amish Acres and the Festival's marketplace director. Richard's five grandchildren have also inherited a love for the arts festival. He is fortunate to have a family that shares his passion for continuing the Amish Acres tradition; and

Whereas, This high caliber establishment has been developed through the talents of the exhibitors and festival staff of Amish Acres. Their hard work and dedication to preserving the Amish tradition and promoting the arts is evident: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. The Indiana Senate congratulates Amish Acres on
2 their golden anniversary.

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1 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
2 transmit a copy of this Resolution to Richard Pletcher, CEO of Amish
3 Acres.

